

**BURIEN BUSINESS AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP (BEDP)
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: October 26, 2007

Time: 7-8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Harvey Aulgur, Mary Averett, Nancy Damon, David Elliott, Bob Ewing, Kevin Fitz, Jim Hughes, Karen Lautermilch, Mark Minium, Doug Moreland

Excused Absentees: Rick Cosgrave, Geri Fain

Absentees: Michael Goldsmith, Jane Voget

Staff: Mike Martin, City Manager; Dick Loman, Economic Development Manager; Janet Stallman, Department Assistant, City Manager's Office

Guests: Mayor Joan McGilton; Stuart Low, Businessman; Marco Milanese, Port of Seattle

Call to Order: Meeting opened at 7 a.m. by Kevin Fitz, Chair

Minutes: The minutes from September 28 were approved with correction.

Chair's Report – Kevin Fitz

Comments/Review of Board Retreat

Kevin asked attendees to offer remarks about the BEDP Retreat from October 19.

Comments are summarized below:

Jim Hughes: Thought we made some progress, enjoyed it, but there is never enough time.

Mark Minium: Was hoping for more; appreciated the facilitator; thought more would come out of this retreat.

David Elliott: We didn't go far enough; some unfinished business.

Doug Moreland: Good first retreat; I share the feeling we could have done more; Need to do more in process organizationally to move ahead. We did get some of that done.

Kevin Fitz: I think the facilitator had a tall order working with this group. I thought it was a great first exercise. I want to thank the City for staff support that went into the retreat and Mayor McGilton for being there.

Mike Martin: I felt like we didn't do as much as we might have; it was an important step in our alignment. But, we could definitely use some more work. Getting a vision in place would be a good first step. One outcome we didn't have was nailing down the vision, and defining your work plan. Working on a long-term vision for Burien's economic future would be helpful. There will be some issues coming up with NERA. We are going to require some guidance. We will be in uncharted water there. It will set the tone as to what the city will look like for a very long time. Those are the sorts of things that I think this group is very well situated to work on.

Dick Loman: I thought it was good; I felt a sense of identity with the group that I hadn't experienced before. It was good that we celebrated the history of the BEDP; If it weren't for the participation of a number of people on this board, some initiatives would have stumbled. The work on 152nd Street was the lynchpin in getting downtown redevelopment started. Without that, I'm not sure we'd have a downtown redevelopment. It is satisfying to look back on what's been accomplished.

Mary Averett: I wasn't there, but in reviewing the notes from the meeting, I'm wondering, how are the new members a challenge? Kevin Fitz answered that we've never had so many new members at one time. The dynamics of the group has changed. We need to recognize that. We have Mary, Karen, and Geri that come from strong organizations. We have been somewhat unstructured. We need to recognize this structure in order to utilize your skills and talents.

Karen Lautermilch: I thought the retreat was helpful personally; I got to know everybody better; I think there needs to be more discussion, or it just falls away. I'd like to see either all of us, or even a small group continue the conversation.

Bob Ewing: What are we waiting for? The retreat was fine; let's get back on target and doing things. This report from the retreat confirms what the issues were. The facilitator did a pretty good job of pulling it together. Why don't we get started working on issues again? We heard from the Mayor and the staff. We are empowered to work on issues, so let's get started. We should continue to build capacity here. We need to learn how to be competent at what we're doing. Let's work on the vision and then support whatever work needs to be done in NERA, for instance.

Mark Minium: Wants to make sure BEDP is working on public safety. He believes homeless people are an issue. We don't have strong enough laws to keep these folks from urinating in public, etc. He'd like to see stronger legislation.

Kevin Fitz: I think we heard that the whole group should work on the long-term vision, and come up with some detailed things that go to subcommittees. Bob Ewing: Mike agreed to facilitate us through the visioning process. Mike suggested having Council come to a later meeting to solidify the vision. Mayor McGilton agreed it would be helpful.

City Manager's Report – Mike Martin

Don't want to lose track of the schools issue. We've got that on our agenda. Subsidized housing for teachers is one possibility. Mike has never seen an issue gain the traction that this idea has gained in such a short time. We can't graduate only 58% of our kids and create what we think we're trying to create here. I really want us to have education as a component of what we do.

A city-wide survey will be sent out with some broad questions. Some of the questions will be about annexation; some will deal with how citizens feel about the services they get for their tax dollars, etc. We would like to use our survey results to help create our work plan.

Discover Burien Report – Doug Moreland

There will be a merchants Halloween event in Burien, "Boo in Burien" tomorrow.

Review of Economic Cluster for Burien – Dick Loman

We are at a critical point in pursuing this initiative. The core group: Schick Shadel, Highline-West Seattle Mental Health, Highline Medical Center, and Group Health; Highline Community College, and Highline School District will be meeting soon. We will come up with a work program, meeting schedule, etc. I hope to use the Tucson situation to create a model. After this initial meeting, we will be bringing the information to this group and Council.

Mayor McGilton reminded Dick that Senator Karen Keiser is very interested in this group; she thought it was a dynamite idea. We should keep her involved; she is very interested in this. Also, it was mentioned that Lakeside Milam might be a player.

Future Agenda

Mike Martin will facilitate a discussion on a vision for the BEDP at the next meeting.

Outreach Speaker: Michael Lafreniere, Burien Parks Director**Presentation on new Community Center**

Michael Lafreniere gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed new community center. The BEDP would like to offer feedback and help promote the community center on behalf of the City.

Round the Table

Mark Minium – Don't hold back, Mike.

Bob Ewing – Let's follow up on NERA. The BEDP can strengthen the opportunity for the Community Center project to go forward. We should be involved in this.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 a.m.